

Remarks

Applicants and the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for his efforts in the examination of this application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected Claims 2, 3, 6-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18-22, and 24 under 35 USC 101 over US 6,324,531.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Examiner and the undersigned have conducted an Applicant-Initiated Interview, a Request Form for which was filed and transmitted via electronic mail to the Examiner. A copy of this form and the accompanying email are enclosed herewith at the request of the Examiner. During the telephone conference, this rejection was discussed, and agreement was reached that the application of 35 USC 101 is inappropriate to dependent claims when the respective independent claims have been rejected under obviousness-type double patenting.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 14, 17, and 23 under Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 14, 17, and 23 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

A Terminal Disclaimer has previously been filed with the prior Response to Office Action, which is believed to obviate this rejection, and it is not believed necessary to file

another such document. A copy of the previously filed Terminal Disclaimer is enclosed herewith.

Therefore, it is believed that all claims are now patentable over the cited art.

Conclusions

Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments place this application in a condition for allowance, and passage to issue is respectfully solicited. Applicants and the undersigned would like to again thank the Examiner for his efforts in the examination of this application and for reconsideration of the claims as amended in light of the arguments presented. If the further prosecution of the application can be facilitated through telephone interview between the Examiner and the undersigned, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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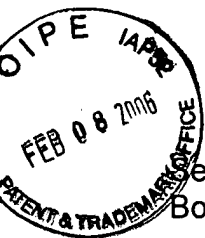
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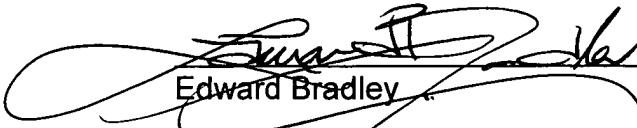
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Agent for Applicant



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 3rd day of February, 2006.


Edward Bradley